

[29 November, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

expected to accelerate the process of Rural Industrialisation and to make the KVI sector commercially viable.

Communication Centres' Offices in Manipur

***170. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Communication Centres' offices in Manipur;
- (b) whether there is any proposal for opening of more communication offices in the State;
- (c) the reasons for delay in opening of telephone offices at Wangoi although its building has been completed; and
- (d) by when the above office would be opened?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (d) There are 35 telephone exchanges in Manipur State providing communication facilities for voice traffic. It is proposed to open 12 more such telephone exchanges.

The Wangoi telephone exchange was burnt on three occasions by militants. The matter has been taken up with the State Government and the exchange will be re-commissioned once adequate security is provided by the State Government authorities.

Khurdha-Bolangir Super Highway

***171. SHRI ANANTA SETHI:** Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the proposal to construct Khurdha-Bolangir super highway in Orissa with World Bank aid has been pending with Government since long;
- (b) if so, the reasons for the delay in getting World Bank Funds for the Super Highway Project; and
- (c) the steps taken for early consideration of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) and (b) No Sir. There is no such proposal pending with Government of India. The question is related to World Bank aid for Orissa State Highways Project. The State Highways come within the preview of the respective State